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May 19, 1998

Glenn M. Eurick
Director Environmental Relations US
Barrick Resources (USA) Inc.
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine
P.O. Box 838
Tooele, Utah 84074-0838

Re: Approval of Revised Draft Reclamation Design Plans, Barrick Resources (USA) Inc., Barrick Mercur Gold Mine, M/045/017, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Eurick:

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to visit the Mercur Mine site on May 12, 1998 along with staff members from the Utah Division of Water Quality. The onsite meeting to discuss proposed changes to the approved mining and reclamation plan (closure plan) and the mine tour of ongoing reclamation activities was very useful and informative. It helped us to gain a better understanding of the proposed design changes to the approved reclamation plan which we have been recently reviewing.

As a result of our review of the draft closure plans, our office meetings and onsite inspection, the Division is now prepared to offer its acceptance of the proposed design drawings which have been submitted to our office to date. The following closure plan design drawings have been received and evaluated by our office:

- 1. Monthly Closure Progress Meeting Drawings & Specifications dated April 3, 1998
- 2. One set of Mine Site Reclamation Blue lines dated April 1998
- 3. One set of North Meadow Canyon blue lines dated April 1998

Thank you for your continued cooperation and patience in assisting us in our review and approval process of the final reclamation plans for the Mercur Gold Mine. Please instruct your consultants to move ahead with finalization of the reclamation design drawings for construction. We look forward to the receipt of the next round of hydrologic design drawings which we anticipate receiving by June 1, 1998 and our next onsite meeting scheduled for June 16, 1998 at 11:00 a.m.

Sincerely

D. Wayne Hedberg Permit Supervisor

Minerals Regulatory Program

jb cc:

Dennis Frederick, DWQ Brian Buck, JBR Consultants

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m045017.apl